

# UNIX essentials (hands-on)

- the directory tree
- running programs
- the shell (using the T-shell)
  - command line processing
  - special characters
  - command types
  - shell variables
  - environment variables
  - wildcards
  - shell scripts
  - shell commands
  - pipes and redirection
- OS commands
- special files

- **The Directory Tree**

- directories contain files and/or directories
- / : means either the root directory, or a directory separator
  - consider **/home/afniuser/AFNI\_data3 afniuser/suma\_demo**
    - (perhaps **/Users/macuser\_42/AFNI\_data3** on a mac)
- an "absolute" pathname begins with '/', a "relative" pathname does not
  - a relative pathname depends on where you start from
  - in the directories above, note which is a relative pathname
- every directory has a parent directory
  - the relative pathname for the parent directory is '..'
  - the relative pathname for the current directory is '.'
  - consider **./run\_this\_script** and **/bin/ls ../../suma\_demo**
- many commands can be used to return to the home directory (of "afniuser")
  - **cd, cd ~, cd ~afniuser, cd \$HOME, cd /home/afniuser**
    - on a mac **\$HOME** might be **/Users/macuser\_42**
    - note the 2 special characters, '~' and '\$'
- while you work, keep your location within the directory tree in mind

→ class work:

- open a terminal window
- commands: **cd**, **pwd**, **ls**, **ls -al**
- use the "**cd**" command to go to the given directories
  - e.g. for directory **/usr/bin**, use the command: **cd /usr/bin**
  - once there, use the commands "**pwd**", "**ls**", and "**ls -al**"
  - note that you can always return to the home directory via: **cd**

**AFNI\_data3 .. AFNI\_data3/afni .. ~/abin**

- first example (starting with the '**AFNI\_data3** 'directory), use the commands:

```
cd AFNI_data3
```

```
pwd
```

```
ls
```

```
ls -al
```

## • Running Programs

- a program is something that gets "executed", or "run"
- the first element of a command line is generally a program (followed by a space)
- most shells are case sensitive when processing a command
- command examples:

- **/bin/ls \$HOME ~/AFNI\_data3**

- **count -digits 2 1 10**

- script: an interpreted program (interpreted by another program)

- e.g. shell script, javascript, perl script, afni startup script
  - view the regression script: **cat ~/AFNI\_data3/afni/epi\_r1\_regress**

- some commands: **cd, pwd, echo, ls, wc, cat, less, nedit, man**

- **cd ~/AFNI\_data4** – change directories
  - **wc s2.anova** – word count
  - **cat s2.anova** – concatenate (to terminal)
  - **less s2.anova** – a text file perusal program
  - **gedit s2.anova** – a GNU text editor
  - **man wc** – an online manual (runs in **less** mode)

- basic keystrokes for **less** (and **man**): **Enter, Space, b, g, G, h, q**

- **The Shell**

- command interpreter (case and syntax sensitive)
- examples: **tcsh**, **csch**, **sh**, **bash**, **ksh**, **zsh**, **wish**, **tcclsh**, **rsh**, **ssh**
- command: **echo \$SHELL**
- the T-shell: **/bin/tcsh**
  - an enhanced C-shell (**csch**), which has C programming style syntax

- **Command Line Processing** (simplified outline):

- 1) evaluate special characters, such as: `~ $ & * ? \ ' " ` |`
  - 2) decide which program to execute (more on this later)
    - pathname, alias, shell command, search the **\$PATH**
  - 3) execute appropriate program, passing to it the parameter list
  - 4) save the execution status in the **\$status** variable (0 is considered success)
- command: **echo hello \$HOME '\$pickle'**
  - tcsh has automatic filename completion using the Tab key
    - type "**ls suma**" and hit the *Tab* key, watch what happens, and hit *Enter*
    - type "**ls AF**" and hit the *Tab* key, note what happens

- **Special Characters**

- ~ : the current user's home directory (e.g. /home/user), same as \$HOME
- \$ : used to access a variable (e.g. \$home)
- & : used to put a command in the background (e.g. afni &)
- \* : wildcard, matching zero or more characters (e.g. ls AFNI\_d\*)
- ? : wildcard, matching exactly one character (e.g. ls AFNI\_data?)
- \ : command line continuation (must be the last character on the line)
- ' : the shell will not evaluate special characters contained within these quotes  
(e.g. echo '\$HOME' → will output \$HOME, not /home/afniuser)  
(e.g. 3dbucket -prefix small\_func 'func\_slim+orig[0,2..4]')
- " : the shell will evaluate \$variables and `commands` contained within these  
(e.g. echo "[\*] my home dir is \$HOME")  
(e.g. echo "the numbers are 'count -digits 2 7 12'")
- ` : execute the command contained within these quotes, and replace the quoted part with the output of the contained command  
(e.g. echo "the numbers are `count -digits 2 7 12`")

- **Command Types**

→ the shell must decide what type of command it has:

- pathname for a program: execute that program
- alias: apply any alias(es) then start over (decide on which program to run)
- shell command: part of the **/bin/tcsh** program
- check the **\$PATH** directories for the program

→ consider the commands:

```
/bin/ls AFNI_data3/afni
```

```
ls AFNI_data3/afni
```

```
cd AFNI_data3/afni
```

```
wc ~/AFNI_data3/afni/epi_r1_ideal.1D
```

→ the "which" command shows where the shell gets a command from:

```
which ls
```

```
which cd
```

```
which wc
```

- **The PATH Variable**

→ a list of directories to be searched for a given program to be run from

→ the **\$path** and **\$PATH** variables are identical, but are represented differently

→ commands: **echo \$PATH**

```
echo $path
```

```
cat ~/.cshrc
```

## • Shell Variables

- shell variables are variables that are stored in, and affect the shell
- all variables are stored as strings (or as arrays of strings)
- a variable is accessed via the '\$' character
- the '**echo**' command: echo the line after processing any special characters
  - command: **echo my home dir, \$HOME, holds ~/\***
- the '**set**' command: set or assign values to one or more variables
  - without arguments: '**set**' displays all variables, along with any values
  - '**set**' takes a list of variables to set, possibly with values
  - consider the commands:

```
set food
echo $food
set food = pickle
echo $food
set food eat = chocolate donut    (emphasis: food eat = chocolate donut)
set
set food = eat chocolate donut
set food = "eat chocolate donut"
echo $food
```



→ variables can be assigned the result of a numerical computation using the '@' command, however only integer arithmetic is allowed

- commands: **set value1 = 17**

**@ value2 = \$value1 \* 2 + 6**

**echo value2 = \$value2**

- **Array Variables**

→ array variables are set using ()

→ consider the commands:

**set stuff = ( 11 12 13 seven 15 )**

**echo \$stuff**

**echo \$stuff[1]**

**echo \$stuff[2-4]**

**echo \$stuff[8]**

**set stuff = ( hi \$stuff \$food )**

**echo \$stuff**

**echo \$path**

**cat ~/.cshrc**

- **Environment Variables**

- similar to shell variables, but their values will propagate to children shells
- by convention, these variables are all upper-case (though it is not required)
- similarly, shell variables are generally all lower-case
- set environment variables using "**setenv**" (as opposed to the "**set**" command)
- without any parameters, the "**setenv**" command will display all variables
- the "**setenv**" command will only set or assign one variable at a time
- the format for the command to set a value is (without any '=' sign):

**setenv VARIABLE value**

- commands:

**setenv MY\_NAME Elvis**

**echo \$MY\_NAME**

**echo \$path**

**echo \$PATH**

**echo \$HOME**

**setenv**

- **Wildcards**

→ used for shell-attempted filename matching

→ special characters for wildcards:

**`*`, `?`, `[`, `]`, `^`**

**`*`** : matches any string of zero or more characters

(special case: a lone `*` will not match files starting with `'.'`)

**`?`** : matches exactly one character

**`[ ]`** : matches any single character within the square brackets

**`[ ^ ]`** : matches any single character EXCEPT for those within the brackets

→ commands (run from the `~/AFNI_data3/MPRAGE_anat` directory):

**`ls`**

**`ls *`**

**`ls -a`**

**`ls M*3.dcm`**

**`ls M*0*3.dcm`**

**`ls M*0?3.dcm`**

**`ls M*[23]*.dcm`**

**`ls M*[ ^23]*.dcm`**

**`echo M*[ ^23]*.dcm`**

- **Shell Scripts**

- a text file, a sequence of shell commands
- the '\ ' character can be used for line continuation (for readability)
  - for that purpose, it must be the last character on the line (including spaces)
- executing shell scripts, 3 methods:
  - 1) **./filename** : (safest) execute according to the top "**#!program**"
    - if no such line, usually executed via **bash** (a potential programming error)
    - the file must have execute permissions (see '**ls -l**')
  - 2) **tcsh filename** : execute as t-shell commands
  - 3) **source filename** : execute using current shell
    - affects current environment
    - this method should be used only when that is the intention (e.g. **.cshrc**)
- consider **~/AFNI\_data4/s1.afni\_proc.block**
- consider **~/AFNI\_data3/afni/rall\_regress**
- use the command "**gedit my.script**" to create a script with a few commands

```
echo hi, I am in directory $cwd
ls -a
cd $HOME/AFNI_data3
ls -al
```
- run the script using the command: **tcsh my.script**

- **Some Shell Commands** (handled by the shell)

<b>cd</b>	: change working directory
<b>echo</b>	: echo command line to the terminal window
<b>pwd</b>	: display the present working directory
<b>set</b>	: set variables or assign string values to variables
<b>@</b>	: set a variable to the results of an integral computation
<b>alias</b>	: display or create an alias (e.g. <b>alias hi 'echo hello there' </b> )
<b>bg</b>	: put a process in the background (usually after ctrl-z)
<b>fg</b>	: put a process in the foreground
<b>exit</b>	: terminate the shell
<b>setenv</b>	: set environment variables
<b>source</b>	: execute a script within the current shell environment

- special keystrokes (to use while a process is running)

<b>ctrl-c</b>	: send an interrupt signal to the current process
<b>ctrl-z</b>	: send a suspend signal to the current process

- **More Shell Commands: basic flow control**

→ commands: **if**, **else**, **endif**, **while**, **end**, **foreach**

---

```
if ( $user == "elvis" ) then
    echo 'the king lives'
endif
```

---

```
set value = 5
set fact = 1
while ( $value > 0 )
    @ fact = $fact * $value
    @ value -= 1
end
echo 5 factorial = $fact
```

---

```
foreach value ( 1 2 3 four eight 11 )
    echo the current value is $value
end
```

---

```
foreach file ( I.*3 )
    ls -l $file
end
```

- **Pipes and Redirection**

> : redirect program output (stdout) to a file

e.g. **3dmerge -help > 3dmerge.help**

**3dmerge -pickle > 3dmerge.help**

>& : redirect all output (both **stdout** and **stderr**) to a file

e.g. **3dmerge -pickle >& 3dmerge.pickle**

e.g. **tcsh my.script >& script.output**

>> : append program output to a file

e.g. **echo "more info: value = \$val" >> script.output**

| : pipe standard output to the input of another program

e.g. **3dDeconvolve -help | less**

|& : include **stderr** in the pipe

e.g. **tcsh my.big.script |& tee script.output**

- run the script
- send all output to the tee program
- the tee program duplicates the input, sending the output to both the terminal and the given file (**script.output**)
- you can see the output, but it is also stored for future analysis

- **Some OS Commands**

- ls** : list the contents of a directory
- \* **cat** : concatenate files to the terminal (print them to the screen)
- \* **more** : a file perusal program - view files one page at a time
- \* **less** : a better file perusal program (type **less**, get **more**)
- man** : on-line manuals for many OS commands (and library functions)
  - this uses a "**less**" interface to display the information
  - e.g. consider **man** on : **ls**, **less**, **man**, **tcsh**, **afni**
- \* **head** : display the top lines of a file (default = 10)
  - e.g. **3dDeconvolve -help | head -25**
- \* **tail** : display the bottom lines of a file (default = 10)
  - e.g. **tail ideal\_r1.1D**
- \* **wc** : word count - count characters, words and lines (of a file)
- cp** : copy files and directories to a new location
- mv** : rename a file, or move files and directories
- rm** : BE CAREFUL - remove files and/or directories (no recovery)
  - e.g. **rm junk.file**
  - e.g. **rm -r bad.directory**

\* denotes a 'filter' program, which can take input from a file or from **stdin**



\* **grep** : print lines from a file that match the given pattern

e.g. **grep path ~/.cshrc**

e.g. **ls ~/abin | grep -i vol**

e.g. from the output of "**3dVol2Surf -help**" show lines which contain 'surf', but not 'surface', then remove duplicates:

```
3dVol2Surf -help | grep surf | grep -v surface | sort | uniq
```

- **Some Special Files (in the home directory)**

**.cshrc** : c-shell startup file ("**csh** run commands")

- set aliases
- adjust the path
- set shell and environment variables

**.afnirc** : **AFNI** startup file

**.sumarc** : **suma** startup file

**.login** : commands run at the start of a login shell (e.g. a terminal window)

**.logout** : commands run before exiting a login shell

**.tcshrc** : t-shell startup file (if it does not exist, the **.cshrc** file will be used)